



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND  
INCORPORATED

# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

## Human Services Commission

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MELINDA FERRY  
CHAIRMAN

HOCINE BAOUCHE  
YALE CANTOR  
HELEN FILLORAMO  
SUSAN HANNIGAN  
ANNE NICKERSON  
RICHARD PETRUCCI  
SUSAN STACK

### HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

#### Monday, January 13, 2014

#### Minutes of the Meeting

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Sue Stack, vice chairwoman at 6:00 P.M.

**PRESENT:** Yale Cantor, Sue Stack, Sue Hannigan, Helen Filloramo, Anne Nickerson, Hocine Boache, Richard Petrucci

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Teresa Cavanagh – Ms. Cavanagh was introduced by the Director. She will become the Commission's newest member.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motioned (S.Stack), Seconded (A. Nickerson) and passed by those present to accept the minutes of the November 18, 2013 meeting.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** The holiday distribution for both Thanksgiving and Christmas went extremely well. Both the food bank and fuel bank received very generous donations during the holiday, especially the food bank. Cindy Boscarino, program coordinator and Tina Modzelewski, secretary made a great team and were well organized as they also continued to schedule energy appointments and respond to telephone calls of "no heat" emergencies. The recent extreme cold weather periods have kept us very busy. New applicant numbers continue to increase for the energy program which will end in May.

Staff from the North Central Area Agency on Aging (NCAAA) will meet with the senior center and human services directors to tour the new senior center with the focal point being on the kitchen. NCAAA gave us a \$5,000 grant to supplement a hot meals program. A kitchen manager still has to come on board before we are ready to open the lunch program.

Both the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance have given approval for the senior center to hire two part-time custodians. The newspaper ad for the position came out on Saturday in the *Journal Inquirer* and is also posted on the town website. The positions will provide flexibility and coverage for evening and weekend programming.

The soft opening of the senior center on Monday, January 6, 2014 “went exceedingly well” despite the rain and cold, according to senior center director, Erin Graziani. There was a steady stream of people throughout the day, including Edith Prague, Commissioner on Aging, her assistant Cheryl Jackson and Congressman Joe Courtney. One of the comments made was that Ellington should start the process for senior center national accreditation. Only a few centers in Connecticut are accredited.

Sue Trotter, Ellington High School Lunch Program Director, will have a fundraising activity for us in April 2014. Ms. Trotter has been very helpful in lending guidance and support in getting the kitchen ready for opening and ready to serve up meals.

We are in the process of obtaining all permits necessary for construction to begin on the Arbor Commons addition. Weather permitting construction will begin in late February or early March.

**SENIOR CENTER STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT:** The committee has ordered the Tree of Life to be delivered to the senior center. It should arrive and be ready for viewing before the April open house.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Agency funding requests have begun arriving and the director and staff will begin formulating the 2014-2015 budget and putting the packets together. Emphasis will be on the senior center budget and a projection of year one operations.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Melinda Ferry, chairman has resigned from the Commission to become a newly elected member of the Board of Selectmen. Melinda will become our liaison from the Board of Selectmen. Sue Stack, vice chairman was nominated to chairman and Sue Hanningan will become vice-chairman. Motioned (Y. Cantor), Seconded (H. Baouche) and passed by all those present.

We have also asked the Board of Finance if they would appoint a liaison to the human services/senior center. By doing so perhaps the budget process would be easier for members to understand and at the same time the liaison could provide some insight into the board’s thought process on the budget.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motioned (S.Hannigan), Seconded (H. Filloramo) and passed by all those present to adjourn at 6:50P.M.

Submitted by,

Doris R. Crayton,  
Acting Secretary